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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Freeze, the KGB...

President Reagan's assertion that the nuclear freeze movement is a KGB-instigated Communist plot, designed for "the weakening of America" [Nov. 13], is not only myopic and ludicrous, but it smears the integrity of the tens of millions of Americans who are legitimately concerned about the omnipresent threat of nuclear war. Whether the Russian government is involved in the freeze movement—directly or indirectly—is entirely irrelevant. The Russian government has always been known to act according to its own selfish interests, and this is undoubtedly no exception: they do not want their nation obliterated in a nuclear war.

Another reason the Soviets desire a freeze on an arms buildup may be that they want to save some money—something that Mr. Reagan ought to be concerned about as well. Instead of continuing the arms race in order to drive the Soviet government toward starving its own people, perhaps Mr. Reagan ought to go along with the freeze proposal in order to remove some of the burden felt by our nation and its economy—and to give a grain of credibility to his call for arms reduction.

There is nothing suicidal about a nuclear freeze, from either a Russian or an American standpoint. If the KGB is indeed helping to put pressure on our gov-

ernment to adopt the freeze proposal, then the Soviets are certainly acting in their own best interest. Mr. Reagan can act in our best interest by adopting the proposal as soon as possible.

And I'm not even linked with the KGB!

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It should be transparently clear by now that the real source of the KGB "linkage" to our nuclear freeze movement is none other than our own CIA. Both of these outfits, along with their armed services counterparts, have an enormous stake in maintaining—respectively—the Red threat and the capitalist menace. Stirring up peace is what really scares hawks on both sides, and why not? Why should they voluntarily want to join the already swollen ranks of the unemployed?

But for President Reagan to take seriously this piece of misinformation, simply because it was picked up by the deeply naive Readers Digest, is scary. Or is the CIA dabbling in more of its double-dirty tricks again, and failing to level with their boss?

The next thing we know, the CIA will be telling us that the Catholic Church has become an arm of the KGB. Why are the "moles" so hard to find? Because they are in charge.

HOWARD E. BALL

McLean